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NND PROJECT NUMBER 974352 YEAR DECLASSIFIED: 97
RICHARD L. BOYLAN, NATIONAL ARCHIVES DATE COPIED:

COUNTRY	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
GERMANY	D-A56-B-4601	E 139671

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT		
Socio-Political Information BLACK, John (FN) BORNE		
AREA REPORTED ON	FROM (Agency)	
SEE END OF REPORT	7050th AISW (USAFE)	
DATE OF REPORT	DATE OF INFORMATION	EVALUATION
26-27 Feb 54	Jun 45 - Dec 53	C-3
PREPARED BY (Officer)	SOURCE	
HALBERT H. ACKER, Lt Col, USAF	216163	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)		
Refer to report 216163-D-A56-B-4602 [redacted]		

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112-Part II.)

A. Biographical Information:

1. SOURCE was born on 19 May 1916 at Hankensbuettel/Gifhorn. He attended four (4) years elementary school, eight (8) years high school and two (2 years university where he studied natural science. He had no civilian profession yet, SOURCE was able to comprehend and to speak Russian fluently.

2. SOURCE was interned in a PW transit camp of unknown number in CRAIOVA (4418N/2348E), Rumania, from Sep 44 to Dec 44 and in a PW transit camp of unknown number in CARACAL (4407N/2421E), Rumania, from Dec 44 to Jan 45. SOURCE was arrested for conspiracy against the new Rumanian Government and confined to a MVD prison of unknown number in CRAIOVA from Jan 45 to Apr 45 and to a MVD prison of unknown number in BUCURESTI (4425N/2606E) from Apr 45 to Jun 45. In Jun 45 he was transferred to the Soviet Union. SOURCE was confined to a MVD prison of unknown number in ODESSA (4628N/3044E) from Jun 45 to Jun 46. While confined to this prison, SOURCE was sentenced to ten (10) years forced labor for counter revolutionary actions in Rumania by the MOSKOVSKIY OSOBOYE SOVIETSHANIYE (SOURCE'S phonetic spelling, meaning special court commission) in MOSKVA (5545N/3735E). SOURCE was confined to a MVD prison in DNEPROPETROVSK (4827N/3500E) from Jun 46 to Sep 46. While interned in a forced labor camp in CHELYABINSK (5509N/6125E), SOURCE worked as a laborer in a stone quarry from Sep 46 to Oct 47. While interned in a forced labor camp in MAGNITOGORSK (5325N/5905E), SOURCE worked as a laborer on housing constr from Oct 47 to Mar 49. While interned in a forced labor camp in KARABASH (5529N/6012E), SOURCE was never allowed to leave his camp during Mar 49. While interned in the STEP LAG MVD number 392/I (SOURCE'S phonetic spelling, meaning steppe camp), he worked as a transloading worker on a copper ore range in DZHESKAZGAN (4752N/6727E) from Mar 49 to Mar 50. While interned in STEP LAG MVD number 392/III in DZHESKAZGAN-KINGIR (4755N/6730E), SOURCE worked in a power plt as a laborer from Mar 50 to Dec 52. While interned in STEP LAG MVD number 392/VIII in BALKASH (4649N/7501E), SOURCE worked as a laborer on the constr of a copper ore refinery from Dec 52 to Jun 53. While interned in a forced labor camp of unknown number in GVARDEYSK (5439N/2105E) SOURCE was never allowed to leave his camp from Jun 53 to Dec 53. In all the above mentioned camps and prisons SOURCE enjoyed more than normal contact with the Soviet civilian population and was in a position to evaluate Soviet attitudes toward developments in 1953.

a. SOURCE was not tried and sentenced for war crimes. Insofar as he knew prisoners of war sentenced for war crimes and those sentenced for grave crimes were released. SOURCE'S sentence and trial fell under grave crimes.

3. SOURCE was a very intelligent man and able to express himself clearly and fluently. He gave his info in a very willing manner. He never contradicted him-

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Volga Germans, Crimean tatars, Estonians, Latvians and Lithuanians lived in forced labor camps in VORKUTA (6730N/6403E), KOLYMSKAYA district, KARAGANDA (4952N/7310E) and KRASNOYARSKIY KRAY.

E. Forced Labor Camps

23. SOURCE was confined in the following forced labor camps:

a) Forced labor camp of unknown number in CHELYABINSK (5509N/6125E) from Sep 46 to Oct 47. The camp was called third and seventh LAG U SHASTIK (SOURCE'S phonetic spelling). The Section number three (3) had a total of 3,000 inmates both male and female. About twenty (20) percent of them were arrested for political reasons and eighty (80) percent were real criminals. The inmates were Russians, Poles, Czechoslovakians, Hungarians, Rumanians, Germans, Finns, and Frenchman. All of them worked in stone quarries. The section number seven (7) had a total of 3,200 inmates both male and female, about thirty (30) percent of them were arrested for political reasons and seventy (70) percent were criminals. The inmates were of the same nationalities as mentioned under section 3. About eighty (80) percent of the inmates were not fit for work and the rest worked in stone quarries.

b) Forced labor camp,number unknown in MAGNITOGORSK (5325N/5905E) from Oct 47 to Mar 49. The camp had a total of 800 inmates, all of whom were men. About thirty (30) percent of them were arrested for political reasons and seventy (70) percent were criminals. The inmates were Soviet citizens, Poles, Czechoslovakians, Hungarians, Rumanians, Finns, Germans, and Frenchmen. They worked on housing constr.

c) Forced labor camp of unknown number in KARABASH (5529N/6012E) for three (3) weeks in Mar 49. It was a distribution camp for the various forced labor camps in the KARAGANDINSKAYA OBLAST. It had about 2,500 inmates both male and female. About fifty (50) percent of the inmates were arrested for political reasons and the rest were criminals. About 600 of the prisoners were Germans, whereas the rest were Soviet citizens, Poles, Hungarians, Czechoslovakians, Finns and Frenchmen.

d) Forced labor camp STEP LAG MVD number 392/I in DZHESKAZGAN (4752N/6727E) from Mar 49 to Mar 50. The camp had a total of 7,500 inmates, all of whom were men. All inmates were arrested for political reasons. They worked in copper ore mines and on housing constr. The inmates were Soviet citizens, Poles, Hungarians, Rumanians, Spaniards, Germans, Frenchmen, and Czechoslovakians.

e) Forced labor camp STEP LAG MVD number 392/III in DZHESKAZGAN-KINGIR (4755N/6730E) from Mar 50 to Dec 52. The camp had a total of 4,500 male inmates and 2,000 female inmates, all of whom were arrested for political reasons. They were of the same nationalities as mentioned under the camp number 392/I. They worked on the constr of a thermal power plt and a copper refinery.

f) Forced labor camp STEP LAG MVD number 392/VIII in BALKASH (4649N/7501E) from Dec 52 to Jun 53. The camp had a total of 1,300 male inmates and 1,000 female inmates. All of them were arrested for political reasons. Their nationalities were the same as mentioned under camp number 392/I. The forced laborers worked on the constr of a copper refinery and on housing constr.

g) Forced labor camp of unknown number in GVARDEYSK (5439N/2105E) from Jun 53 to Dec 53. This was a discharge camp where about 1,100 male inmates and 300 female inmates were interned. They did not work and awaited their repatriation.

24. SOURCE met the following prisoners who were non-Soviet nationals and other than so-called war criminals:

a) Two (2) US sailors of unknown name were seen in the MVD prison of unknown number in ODESSA (4628N/3044E) in May and Jun 46. They were sentenced to six (6) and eight (8) weeks imprisonment for beating a Russian policeman in the streets of ODESSA.

b) Mr Joe SMITH, years of age:forty (40), prisoner on trial, seen in May 46 in the ODESSA MVD prison. SMITH was called by the Russians SMETANOV. He was a Canadian citizen. SOURCE talked to him and heard that he emigrated with his father in 1919 from Canada to ODESSA, whereas his mother stayed home. He attended the high school in ODESSA and worked as an electro engineer on a Soviet ship. During the war he collaborated with the German Army and worked on the constr of an airfield in ODESSA which was run by the German Air Force. After the war he applied for a passport and

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a visa to Canada and was then arrested for conspiracy against the Soviet State. His state of health was good when SOURCE met him last.

c) Mr Rolf LIEMANN, forty-five (45) years of age, British citizen, half-jewish. Until Oct 47 in a forced labor camp of unknown number in CHELYABINSK. His father was owner of the EDEN Hotel in BERLIN (5231N/1323E), Germany. His mother stayed in LONDON (5131N/0006W), England. His sister lived in PARIS (4851N/0220E), France, at 3 Rue BLEUE. He emigrated in 1933 from BERLIN to VIENNA (4812N/1622E), Austria, and from here to PRAGUE (5050N/1425E), CZECHOSLOVAKIA, and from here to WARSAW (5212N/2100E), Poland. He was captured by the German GESTAPO after the German-Polish theater was over, but was released four (4) weeks later. Then he was sentenced by the Soviets to eight (8) years forced labor for illegal crossing the Polish-Russian frontier. After his time of sentence was over he was released in 1947 and deported from CHELYABINSK to AKBAZAR (unknown coordinates) near AK-MOLINSK (5110N/7127E) where he worked as a male nurse. Then he was imprisoned again because he refused to take the Soviet citizenship. In 1951 he was sentenced to ten (10) years forced labor for the same reason and served his sentence in KARA-GANDA. SOURCE learned this from a letter which he received from him. This man was in a very poor physical condition and suffered from tuberculosis.

25. From the beginning of 1949 the treatment of forced laborers changed from bad to worse. They were heavily guarded, encircled by barbed wire and electric wire obstacles, surrounded by more watch towers with searchlights. Hunger was used to compel forced laborers to work to the limits of their endurance. Death rates were extremely high. Barracks were locked at night. After the downfall of BERIA these condition were changed and became more human. The hardened criminals, the so-called BLATNOI's (SOURCE'S phonetic spelling) were transferred from the ordinary forced labor camps to islands in the Barents Sea.

F. Voice of America:

27. SOURCE knew a few laborers in DZHESKAZGAN-KINGIR who listened to Voice of America broadcasts. This was in the period of time from Mar 50 to Dec 52. The laborers, the names of whom SOURCE was unable to remember, believed that the programs originated from the European Radio station of VOA.

29. SOURCE was of the impression that the broadcasts were not understandable enough for the Russian people and the men in the streets. He believed that the broadcasts should be more in accordance to the primitive mentality of the ordinary Russian citizens. Especially the geographic knowledge of the people were very poor, so that it happed that broadcasts concerning the S American State Chile were regarded as China, because the Russians never heard that a State of Chile existed.

30. The free Soviet workers with whom SOURCE talked about the VOA were about forty (40) to forty-five (45) years of age and came from the Ukraine. They attended the elementary school only. SOURCE said that it was self-explanatory that they made such remarks only when they were alone with SOURCE.

32. SOURCE heard from the free laborers that very seldom the Russian authorities jammed broadcasts of the VOA.

33. SOURCE mentioned that everyone in the Soviet Union was able to buy a shortwave receiver after 1950 if he had enough money. Even laborers were able to do so, if they did not spent their money for drinks. Everyone, except higher Party functionaries and high ranking officers of the MVD and Soviet Armed Forces, who had access to a shortwave receiver were considered unreliable.

AREA REPORTED ON: ODESSA, DNEPROPETROVSK, CHELYABINSK, MAGNITOGORSK, KARABASH, DZHESKAZAGAN, BALKHASK, GVARDEYSK, USSR.

APPROVED: D.M. Allison

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